

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation comprising an active agent and a mucoadhesive carrier for the active agent, wherein the mucoadhesive carrier comprises a  $\beta$ -limit dextrin and said formulation is in the form of a freeze-dried matrix.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Previously presented) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 1 in which the active agent is a pharmaceutically active agent.
4. (Previously presented) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 1 which is a buccal-melt product.
5. (Original) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 4 which is a wafer.
6. (Previously presented) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 1 which is a powder for use in aerosol delivery formulations.
7. (Previously presented) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 1 which is a thin film.
8. (Previously presented) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 1 further including at least one carbohydrate.

9. (Original) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 8 in which the at least one carbohydrate is a polysaccharide.

10. (Previously presented) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 8 in which the at least one carbohydrate is selected from the group consisting of alginate; pectin; and derivatives of alginate and pectin.

11. (Original) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 10 in which the alginate comprises between 1 and 50% of the formulation (w/w).

12. (Original) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 11 in which the alginate comprises between 10 and 30% of the formulation (w/w).

13. – 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in Claim 1 in which the  $\beta$ -limit dextrin is obtained by hydrolyzing starch ~~is a waxy starch~~.

26. (Withdrawn; currently amended) A method for delivering an active agent to a mucosal membrane of a mammal comprising administering to said mammal a bioadhesive formulation comprising said active agent and a mucoadhesive carrier for the active agent, wherein the mucoadhesive carrier comprises a  $\beta$ -limit dextrin and said formulation is in the form of a freeze-dried matrix.

27. (Withdrawn) A method according to Claim 26, wherein the active agent is a breath freshener.

28. (Withdrawn) A method according to Claim 27, wherein the formulation is a thin-film breath freshener.

29. (Withdrawn) A method according to Claim 26, wherein the active agent is a pharmaceutically active agent.

30. – 35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously presented) A bioadhesive pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is a lyophilized formulation.

37. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein said formulation is a lyophilized formulation.